GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1818
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2002
VISIT OF US OFFICIALS
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether the US officials visited India recently and sought India`s support on an agricultural pact to be negotiated by the members of the World Trade Organisation at Geneva;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with the reaction of the Indian Government;

(c) whether some issues of promoting inter regional trade in South Asia on the bilateral front were also discussed with the US officials; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) : The Second Cabinet level meeting of the India-US Economic and Financial Forum was held on 22 November 2002 at New Delhi. The discussion focused on the global economic scenario with specific reference to the Indian and US economies.Areas of mutual concern and prospects for the future were discussed. Both sides agreed on the need to promote trade, and considered ways to strengthen trade in services, traditional and non-traditional areas.

Discussions held in the first week of November 2002 with visiting US Officials, covered various economic, business and commercial matters, including facilitation of exports of manufacture products from India and shared interests in various areas of the negotiations underway in the World Trade Organization, including agriculture.